

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/540,095

Examiner

Robert M. Pond

Applicant(s)

BOX, RICHARD THOMAS

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Petition (9/27/06), Amendment (8/2/06), Examiner's Amendment (Paper #20061108).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 40-43, 47, 49-69, 71 and 72.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

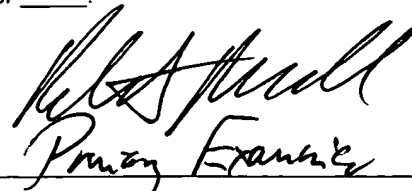
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 20061110.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

#### ***Authorization***

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Rudolph P. Hofmann, Reg. #38,187 on 10 November 2006.

#### ***Allowed Claims***

Claims 40-43, 47, and 49-69, and 71-72 are allowed as entered on 02 August 2006. Claims 1-39, 44-46, 48, and 70 are canceled.

#### ***In the Claims***

The claims entered on 02 August 2006 are amended as follows:

- Claim 40, line 8 (claim 40(c), line 2), delete "verified," and insert therefore: - -verified- -
- Claim 40, line 14 (claim 40(e), line 2), delete "user, for" and insert therefore: - -user's locale, said region- -
- Claim 40, line 29 (claim 40(i), line 1), delete "transactions; and" and insert therefore: - -transactions.- -

***Reasons for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The field of the invention relates a system and method of conducting business between government and business entities, and specifically relates business pertaining to business entity regulation.

Pertaining to claim 40: The prior art of record neither discloses nor teaches and suggests the combination of a business-to-government (or business-to-business) communications interface that presents to the user a customized user interface based on a user's region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface.

***Closest US Patents/Patent Publications***

***US 5,710,887(Chelliah, first cited in Paper #21)***

Chelliah teaches an electronic mall system and method applicable for providing business-to-consumer, business-to-business, and business-to-government user interfaces for the purpose of conducting electronic commerce. Chelliah, however fails to disclose, teach, and suggest presenting to the user a customized user interface based on a user's region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface.

Forward and backward citations of Chelliah failed to produce specific prior art to address this claim element in combination within a B2G or B2B environment.

US 6,067,549 (Smalley)

Smalley discloses regulating business entities by providing a computerized system and method of managing the information necessary to regulate business entities. Smalley, however fails to disclose, teach, and suggest presenting to the user a customized user interface based on a user's region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface.

Forward and backward citations of Smalley failed to produce specific prior art to address this claim element within a B2G or B2B environment.

***Closest Non-patent Literature***

IRA (Paper #20041028, Item U)

IRA discloses business owners starting their own business registering online with the Inland Revenue, HM Customs and Excise agency using electronic forms. IRA however fails to disclose, teach, and suggest much of Claim 40 and specifically fails to disclose presenting to the user a customized user interface based on a user's region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface. In combination with Chelliah, IRA fails to remedy the gaps in Chelliah and does not suggest the claimed invention.

*Fleming (Paper #21, Item: U)*

Fleming discloses the Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise agency and the use of electronic forms to save money in processing business applications.

Fleming alone or as a collection of art with IRA fails to disclose much of Claim 40 and specifically fails to disclose, teach, and suggest presenting to the user a customized user interface based on a user's region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface. In combination with Chelliah and IRA, Fleming fails to remedy the gaps in Chelliah and IRA and does not suggest the claimed invention.

*TForms (Paper #20041028, Item V)*

TForms disclose tax preparation and fails to teach and suggest presenting to the user a customized user interface based on a user's region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface. In combination with Chelliah, IRA and Fleming, TForms fails to remedy the gaps in Chelliah, IRA, and Fleming and does not suggest the claimed invention.

***Closest Foreign Patent Publication***

*WO 95/07510 (Ostrovsky)*

Ostrovsky discloses customizing electronic forms for business filing but fails to disclose presenting to the user a customized user interface based on a user's

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region associated with user's locale, the region determining which government agencies with which to communicate and which sponsor information to display in the user interface.

### ***Conclusion***

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert M. Pond whose telephone number is 571-272-6760. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Jeff Smith can be reached on 571-272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service

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Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert M. Pond', written in a cursive style.

Robert M. Pond  
Primary Examiner  
November 12, 2006